

TRAFFIC COMMISSION
April 28, 2011 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Burbank Traffic Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 275 E Olive Avenue, on the above date. Brian Malone, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Members Present: Brian Malone, Chair
Paul McKenna, Jr., Vice Chair
Gregory Bragg
Joe Terranova
Barry Gussow
Ralph Herman
David Justl

Members Absent: Rebecca Granite-Johnson
Robert Heins

Staff Present: Ken Johnson—Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Sandy George—Recording Secretary, Public Works
Rabie Rahmani—Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works
Rebekka Hosken—Administrative Analyst II, Public Works
Lt. JJ Puglisi—Police Department, Traffic
Terre Hirsch—License and Code

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Traffic Commission)

A. Public Communication

Mr. Rolf Darbo, a resident, spoke on the Alameda North NPP.

Mr. John Murdock, Ms. Rozan Mardosian, Mr. John Gantus, Mr. Vic Kakosian, Mr. Martin Shatahyan, and Ms. Sigrid Lopez postponed their comments until the Public Hearing under section VIA.

B. Commission Member and Subcommittee Communications

Mr. McKenna asked about the Police Department giving out “good job” tickets to local children. Lt Puglisi indicated the Police do have school safety outreach programs in place, and donations can be made

The Public Works department is applying for safe routes to school Federal grants, and will bring back the issue for further discussion.

Mr. Gussow discussed the School Safety Subcommittee’s and staff’s recent visit to Providencia Elementary School, suggesting potential safety improvements in traffic flow there.

C. Staff Communication

The Traffic Commission agendas and reports will be located in a more user friendly location on the city website. The pedestrian count has been completed for Victory Boulevard at Ralph Foy Park. Mr. Johnson will not be able to attend the May traffic Commission because of budget hearing conflicts.

Ms. George asked the Traffic Commission members if they would like to view the online version of the monthly meeting packet instead of receiving paper copies.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McKenna moved to discuss and approve the meeting minutes from March 24th, 2011, seconded by Mr. Herman. The minutes, with one change suggested by Mr. Justl, were approved unanimously.

Mr. Bragg asked Lt. Puglisi what can be done about the large number of RV's parking in the Olive Park parking lot. Lt. Puglisi indicated the matter is complicated, since seniors can get a permit to park in the parks through the Joslyn Center.

*****The Traffic Commission conducted the Public Hearing (Section VI) at this time.
Minutes are provided in Section VI.*****

V. REPORTS

A. Duties and Responsibilities of Traffic Commission (Johnson)

Mr. Johnson reviewed the duties of the Traffic Commission. Mr. Malone, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Justl, Mr. Terranova, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

B. LNCV Update (Keeler)

Mr. Johnson gave an update on the LNCV permit process. An interim process to issue permits online will be ready to "go live" on Monday, May 2, 2011. The process will be available pending Council approval. Staff is requesting Council approve the permit and citation fees on May 10, 2011. Mr. Malone, Lt. Puglisi, Mr. Herman, and Mr. McKenna participated in the discussion.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing for Taxi Cab Convenience and Necessity (Johnson)

The Traffic Commission considered if the existing 130 taxicab operating permits are appropriate for the City's needs and how to divide 70 of those available for renewal amongst the three taxicab companies applying for them.

Mr. John Murdock, an attorney representing United Taxi, suggested allotting additional permits to allow room for hybrids and wheelchair vans. Ms. Rozan Mardosian with G&S Transit Management Inc detailed her company's support for and involvement in Burbank. Mr. John Gantus, also with G&S, felt 130 operating permits were sufficient. Mr. Vic Kakosian of United Taxi wanted more taxicab permits to accommodate business growth. Mr. Martin Shatakhyan of G&S felt the number of taxicab permits offered were sufficient. Ms. Sigrid Lopez of G&S wanted to keep the current number of permits.

Mr. Bragg moved that the Traffic Commission increase the number of permits available in fiscal year 2011-2012 to 140, seconded by Mr. Herman. The motion failed, with Mr. Bragg and Mr. Herman for the motion, and all others opposed.

Mr. Bragg moved that the Traffic Commission increase the number of permits available in fiscal year 2011-2012 to 135, seconded by Mr. Herman. The motion failed, with Mr. Bragg, Mr. Gussow, and Mr. Herman for the motion, all others against.

Mr. Terranova moved that the number of permits available for fiscal year 2011-2012 stay at 130, seconded by Mr. Gussow. The motion passed with all in favor, except for Mr. Justl, Mr. Herman, and Mr. Bragg.

Mr. Gussow moved that the dispersion of available taxicab permits for fiscal year 2011-2012 remain at 50 for G&S Transit and 20 for United Taxi, seconded by Mr. McKenna. The motion passed with all in favor, except for Mr. Herman. The representative from Corona Taxi Company ("Happy Taxi") did not speak and the company did not receive any permits.

Mr. Murdock, Ms. Mardosian, Mr. Gantus, Mr. Kakosian, Mr. Shatakhyan, Ms. Lopez Mr. Hirsch, and the entire Traffic Commission participated in the discussion.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

May

1. Taxicab Report (Monthly)
2. LNCV Status Report (Monthly)
3. Magnolia/San Fernando pedestrian crosswalk (December 2010)
4. Traffic Calming (March 2008)
5. Vehicles for Sale on Public Streets
6. Victory Boulevard Crosswalk

June

1. Flat Rate Taxi Fare Structure (December 2010, postponed from 3/24/11)
2. Status of Truck Routes in Burbank (June 2009, postponed from 3/24/11)
3. Progress of the Olive Avenue Streetscape Project (March 2010)
4. Installation of Additional Audible Traffic Signals (January 2011)
5. Modified Left Turn Signal Detection (October 2010)
7. Commercial Vehicle Parking Restrictions (July 2008, postponed from 5/2011)

School Safety Subcommittee (Mr. Gussow, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Heins-advisor)

1. Parking Near Schools at Dismissal Time on Street Sweeper Day (June 2009)
2. Bicycle Helmet Education (September 2009)
3. Edison Parking Issues
4. Burroughs Traffic Issues
5. Lincoln Street Traffic

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bragg moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26pm, seconded by Mr. Terranova. The motion passed with all in favor. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26th, 2011, at 4:00pm, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 275 E Olive Ave, Burbank CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Johnson, Traffic Engineer
KJ: smg